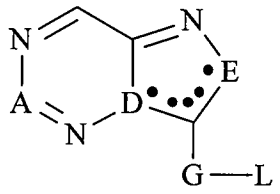
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A method for inhibiting adenosine monophosphate deaminase (AMPDA) or adenosine deaminase (ADA) of plants to provide herbicidal effects which comprises applying compound of the formula (I), its tautomer, its salt or its water addition product,



(I)

where in formula (I)

A is a group of the formula C-R, where R is as defined further below,

D is a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom,

E
a) when D is a nitrogen atom, ~~atom;~~ E is also a nitrogen atom or a group of the formula C-R^O, where R^O is as defined further below, or
b) ~~in the case that D is a carbon atom,~~ when D is a carbon atom, E is a group of the formula N- R^O

the line of dots (•••••) from D via an adjacent ring carbon atom to E is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and E if D is a nitrogen atom (case a), or
is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and D if D is a carbon atom (case b),

R, ~~R^O independently of one another are each~~ is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, azido, nitro, SF_5, unsubstituted or substituted aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, mono- or di(C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_2-C_4)alkenylthio, C_2-C_4)alkynylthio, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylthio, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenylthio, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl,

(C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)alkynyloxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyloxy, ~~or~~ (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_3-C_9) cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylaminosulfonyl or di((C_1-C_4)alkyl)aminosulfonyl, ~~di[(C_1-C_4)alkyl]aminosulfonyl,~~ where each of the 23 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted in the hydrocarbon moiety by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, formyl, carboxy, cyano, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylthio, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, ((C_1-C_4)alkyl)carbonyl, ((C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl, ~~[(C_1-C_4)alkyl]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)alkoxy]carbonyl,~~ aminocarbonyl, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl and di(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl,

R^O for the formula C-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, azido, nitro, SF_5, unsubstituted or substituted aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, mono- or di(C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_2-C_4)alkenylthio, C_2-C_4)alkynylthio, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylthio, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenylthio, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)alkynyloxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_3-C_9) cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylaminosulfonyl or di((C_1-C_4)alkyl)aminosulfonyl, where each of the 23 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted in the hydrocarbon moiety by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, formyl, carboxy, cyano, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylthio, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, ((C_1-C_4)alkyl)carbonyl, ((C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl and di(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl,

R^O for the formula N-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, unsubstituted or substituted aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, mono- or di(C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_2-C_4)alkenylthio, C_2-C_4)alkynylthio, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylthio, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenylthio, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)alkenyloxy, (C_2-

C_4)alkynyloxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_3-C_9) cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylaminosulfonyl or di((C_1-C_4)alkyl)aminosulfonyl, where each of the 18 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted in the hydrocarbon moiety by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, formyl, carboxy, cyano, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylthio, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, ((C_1-C_4)alkyl)carbonyl, ((C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl and di(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl,

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by ~~O, S, NH,~~ -O-, -S-, -NH-, (C_1-C_4)alkyl-N or acyl-N or, in the unsaturated case, one or more CH groups can in each case be replaced by a nitrogen atom, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula $R^2R^3C=$ and radicals of the formula L*, where R^1, R^2, R^3 and L* are as defined further below,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring having 3 to 7 ring atoms, where in the case of a heterocycle the number of heteroatoms is from 1 to 3 heteroatoms and are selected from the group consisting of O and S and where the ring in question may also have fused-on rings and is otherwise unsubstituted or substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula L* and oxo, where R^1 and L* are as defined further below,

(c) is linked cyclically with L via a second direct bond or via a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O and S,

(d) has two or more substituents from the above groups (a) to (c) together,

L, L* independently or one another are each OR^4, SR^4, CN, $C(OR^5)(OR^6)OR^7$), -O-Z^2 or -NH-Z^2, where R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and Z^2 are as defined further below and where L may be attached to the bridge G via a second direct bond or via a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O and S to form a ring,

Z^2 is a radical of the formula $COOR^8$, CS-OR^8, CO-SR^8, CS-SR^8, CO-NR^9-SO_2-R^8, CO-$NR^{10}R^{11}$, CS-$NR^{10}R^{11}$, CO-R^{12}, CS-R^{12}, SO-R^{12}, SO_2R^{12}, SO_3R^8, $SO_2NR^{10}R^{11}$, $SO_2NR^9COR^{12}$, $SO_2NR^9COOR^{12}$, $P(=O)(OR^{13})(OR^{14})$, $P(=S)(OR^{13})(OR^{14})$, ~~or~~ ~~$P(=O)(R^{15})(O^{14})$~~ $P(=O)(R^{15})(OR^{14})$, $P(=O)(OR^{13})(NR^{10}R^{11})$, $P(=O)(R^{10}R^{11})$-$(NR^{16}R^{17})$, $P(=S)(OR^{13})(NR^{10}R^{11})$ or $P(=S)(NR^{10}R^{11})(NR^{16}R^{17})$,

R^1 to R^{17} independently of one another are each a hydrogen atom, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5$-$C_9)$cycloalkenyl, or phenyl, where each of the last-mentioned carbon-containing radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, azido, nitro, SF_5, aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, $((C_1$-$C_4)$alkoxy)carbonyl ~~$[(C_1$-$C_4)$alkoxy]carbonyl~~, mono$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylamino, mono$(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkylamino, di$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylamino, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylthio, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkenylthio, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkynylthio, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkylthio, $(C_5$-$C_9)$cycloalkenylthio, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylsulfinyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylsulfonyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkoxy, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkenyloxy, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkynyloxy, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkoxy, $(C_5$-$C_9)$cycloalkenyloxy, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5$-$C_9)$cycloalkenyl, phenyl, substituted phenyl, and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also by $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkynyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$haloalkyl, $(C_2$-$C_4)$haloalkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_4)$haloalkynyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$hydroxyalkyl and $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkoxy$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl,

to the enzyme AMPDA of plants or enzyme ADA of plants.

2-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal or plant-growth-regulating composition, comprising one or more compounds of the formula (I), their salts, their tautomers or their water addition products as set forth in claim 1 and formulation auxiliaries which are customary in crop protection.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling harmful plants or for regulating the growth of plants, which comprises applying an effective amount of one or more compounds of the formula (I), their salts, their tautomers or their water addition products as set forth in claim 1 onto the plants, parts of plants, plant seeds or the area under cultivation.

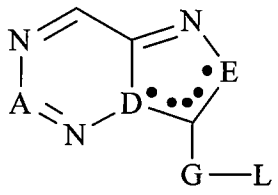
15. (Currently amended) A method of making a composition ~~compoosition~~ for controlling harmful plants and for regulating the growth of plants which comprises mixing an effective amount of a compound of the formula (I), its salt, its tautomer or its water addition product as set forth in claim 1 as herbicide or plant growth regulator with a herbicidally acceptable carrier.

16. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the compound of the formula (I), its salt, its tautomer or its water addition product is employed for controlling harmful plants or for regulating the growth of crop plants or ornamental plants.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the crop plants are transgenic crop plants.

18-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) A method for inhibiting adenosine monophosphate deaminase (AMPDA) or adenosine deaminase (ADA) of plants to provide herbicidal effects which comprises administering to plants a ~~applying~~ compound of the formula (I), its tautomer, its salt or its water addition product,



(I)

where in formula (I)

A is a group of the formula C-R, where R is as defined further below,

D is a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom,

E a) when D is a nitrogen atom; E is also a nitrogen atom or a group of the formula C-R^O, where R^O is as defined further below, or

b) ~~in the case that D is a carbon atom,~~ when D is a carbon atom, E is a group of the formula N-R^O

the line of dots (•••••) from D via an adjacent ring carbon atom to E is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and E if D is a nitrogen atom (case a), or

is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and D if D is a carbon atom (case b),

~~R, R^O independently of one another are each~~ is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, or (C_1-C_4)alkyl,

R^O for the formula C-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, or (C_1-C_4)alkyl,

R^O for the formula N-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, or (C_1-C_4)alkyl,

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O- ~~O~~ where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1 or L*, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a heterocyclic ring having 5 ring atoms and contains one oxygen heteroatom,

L is ~~OR^4, SR^4,~~ -OR^4, -SR^4, -O-Z^2 or -NH-Z^2,

L* is -OR^4, -SR^4, -O-Z^2 or -NH-Z^2,

Z^2 is a radical of the formula $COOR^8$, P(=O)(OR^{13})(OR^{14}), or P(=O)(R^{15})(OR^{14}) ~~P(=O)(R^{15})(O^{14})~~,

R^1, R^4, R^8, R^{13}, R^{14} and R^{15} ~~R^{14}~~ are independently selected from a hydrogen atom or (C_1-C_6)alkyl which is optionally substituted with hydroxyl,

to inhibit the enzyme AMPDA of plants or the enzyme ADA of plants.

23. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein in the compound of formula (I)

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated hydrocarbon bridge having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O- ~~O~~ where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen.

24. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated hydrocarbon bridge having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O- ~~O~~ where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

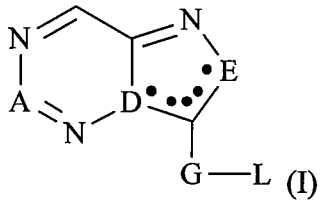
(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula L* ~~R~~^{1}, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a heterocyclic ring having 5 ring atoms and contains one oxygen heteroatom.

25. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein

L is ~~OR~~^{4} -OR^4 or -O-Z^2;

L* is -OR^4 or -O-Z^2.

26. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula (I),



(I)

wherein:

A is a group of the formula C-R, where R is as defined further below,

D is a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom,

E a) when D is a nitrogen atom; E is also a nitrogen atom or a group of the formula C-R^O, where R^O is as defined further below, or

b) ~~in the case that D is a carbon atom,~~ when D is a carbon atom, E is a group of the formula N- R^O,

the line of dots (•••••) from D via an adjacent ring carbon atom to E is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and E if D is a nitrogen atom (case a), or is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and D if D is a carbon atom (case b),

R, ~~R^O independently of one another are each~~ is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, azido, nitro, SF_5, unsubstituted or substituted aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, mono- or di(C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_2-C_4)alkenylthio, C_2-C_4)alkynylthio, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylthio, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenylthio, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)alkynyloxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyloxy, ~~or~~ (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_3-C_9) cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylaminosulfonyl or di((C_1-C_4)alkyl)aminosulfonyl, ~~di[(C_1-C_4)alkyl]aminosulfonyl,~~ where each of the 23 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted in the hydrocarbon moiety by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, formyl, carboxy, cyano, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylthio, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, ((C_1-C_4)alkyl)carbonyl, ((C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl, ~~[(C_1-C_4)alkyl]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)alkoxy]carbonyl,~~ aminocarbonyl, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl and di(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl,

R^O for the formula C-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, azido, nitro, SF_5, unsubstituted or substituted aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, mono- or di(C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_2-C_4)alkenylthio, C_2-C_4)alkynylthio, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylthio, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenylthio, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)alkynyloxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_3-C_9) cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylaminosulfonyl or di((C_1-C_4)alkyl)aminosulfonyl, where each of the 23 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted in the hydrocarbon moiety by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, nitro,

formyl, carboxy, cyano, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylthio, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, ((C_1-C_4)alkyl)carbonyl, ((C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl and di(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl,

R^O for the formula N-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, unsubstituted or substituted aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, mono- or di(C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_2-C_4)alkenylthio, C_2-C_4)alkynylthio, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylthio, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenylthio, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)alkynyloxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_3-C_9) cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)cycloalkenyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylaminosulfonyl or di((C_1-C_4)alkyl)aminosulfonyl, where each of the 18 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted in the hydrocarbon moiety by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, formyl, carboxy, cyano, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylthio, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkylamino, ((C_1-C_4)alkyl)carbonyl, ((C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl and di(C_1-C_4)alkylaminocarbonyl,

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O-, -S-, -NH-, ~~O, S, NH,~~ (C_1-C_4)alkyl-N or acyl-N or, in the unsaturated case, one or more CH groups can in each case be replaced by a nitrogen atom, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula R^2R^3C= and radicals of the formula L*, where R^1, R^2, R^3 and L* are as defined further below,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a carbocyclic or

heterocyclic ring having 3 to 7 ring atoms, where in the case of a heterocycle the number of heteroatoms is from 1 to 3 heteroatoms and are selected from the group consisting of O and S and where the ring in question may also have fused-on rings and is otherwise unsubstituted or substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula L* and oxo, where R^1 and L* are as defined further below,

(c) is linked cyclically with L via a second direct bond or via a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O and S,

(d) has two or more substituents from the above groups (a) to (c) together,

L, L* independently or one another are each OR^4, SR^4, CN, $C(OR^5)(OR^6)OR^7$), -O-Z^2 or -NH-Z^2, where R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and Z^2 are as defined further below and where L may be attached to the bridge G via a second direct bond or via a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O and S to form a ring,

Z^2 is a radical of the formula $COOR^8$, CS-OR^8, CO-SR^8, CS-SR^8, CO-NR^9-SO_2-R^8, CO-$NR^{10}R^{11}$, CS-$NR^{10}R^{11}$, CO-R^{12}, CS-R^{12}, SO-R^{12}, SO_2R^{12}, SO_3R^8, $SO_2NR^{10}R^{11}$, $SO_2NR^9COR^{12}$, $SO_2NR^9COOR^{12}$, $P(=O)(OR^{13})(OR^{14})$, $P(=S)(OR^{13})(OR^{14})$, or $P(=O)(R^{15})(O^{14})$, $P(=O)(OR^{13})(NR^{10}R^{11})$, $P(=O)(R^{10}R^{11})$-$(NR^{16}R^{17})$, $P(=S)(OR^{13})(NR^{10}R^{11})$ or $P(=S)(NR^{10}R^{11})(NR^{16}R^{17})$,

R^1 to R^{17} independently of one another are each a hydrogen atom, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5$-$C_9)$cycloalkenyl, phenyl, where each of the last-mentioned carbon-containing radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, azido, nitro, SF_5, aminosulfonyl, acyl, acylamino, acyloxy, acylthio, ((<u>C_1-C_4)alkoxy)carbonyl,</u> ~~[(C_1-C_4)alkoxy]carbonyl,~~ mono$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylamino, mono$(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkylamino, di$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylamino, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylthio, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkenylthio, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkynylthio, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkylthio, $(C_5$-$C_9)$cycloalkenylthio, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylsulfinyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylsulfonyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkoxy, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkenyloxy, $(C_2$-$C_4)$alkynyloxy, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkoxy, $(C_5$- $C_9)$cycloalkenyloxy, $(C_3$-$C_9)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5$- $C_9)$cycloalkenyl, phenyl, substituted phenyl, and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also by $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, $(C_2$-

C_4)alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)alkynyl, (C_1-C_4)haloalkyl, (C_2-C_4)haloalkenyl, (C_2-C_4)haloalkynyl, (C_1-C_4)hydroxyalkyl and (C_1-C_4)alkoxy(C_1-C_4)alkyl,

its tautomers, its salts or its water addition product, except for the compound of the formula (I) in which A = CH, D = C, E = NH and G-L = ß-D-ribofuranosyl.

27. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in claim 26, wherein:

A is a group of the formula C-R, where R is as defined further below,

D is a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom,

E a) when D is a nitrogen atom; E is also a nitrogen atom or a group of the formula C-R^O, where R^O is as defined further below, or

b) ~~in the case that D is a carbon atom,~~ when D is a carbon atom, E is a group of the formula N- R^O,

the line of dots (•••••) from D via an adjacent ring carbon atom to E is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and E if D is a nitrogen atom (case a), or

is a double bond between the ring carbon atom and D if D is a carbon atom (case b),

R, ~~R^O independently of one another are each~~ is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, or (C_1-C_4)alkyl,

R^O for the formula C-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, halogen, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, or (C_1-C_4)alkyl,

R^O for the formula N-R^O is a hydrogen atom, amino, hydroxyl, mercapto, mono- or di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio, or (C_1-C_4)alkyl,

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated hydrocarbon bridge having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by O, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1 or L*, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a heterocyclic ring having 5 ring atoms and contains one oxygen heteroatom,

L is OR^4, SR^4, -O-Z^2 or -NH-Z^2,

L* is -OR^4, -SR^4, -O-Z^2 or -NH-Z^2,

Z^2 is a radical of the formula $COOR^8$, $P(=O)(OR^{13})(OR^{14})$, or $P(=O)(R^{15})(O^{14})$,

R^1, R^4, R^8, R^{13}, R^{14} and R^{14} are independently selected from a hydrogen atom or $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl which is optionally substituted with hydroxyl,

its tautomers, its salts or its water addition product, except for the compound of the formula (I) in which A = CH, D = C, E = NH and G-L = ß-D-ribofuranosyl.

28. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in claim 27, wherein in the compound of formula (I)

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated hydrocarbon bridge having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O- ~~O~~ where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen.

29. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in claim 27, wherein

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated hydrocarbon bridge having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons ~~members~~, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O- ~~O~~ where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a heterocyclic ring having 5 ring atoms and contains one oxygen heteroatom.

30. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in claim 27, wherein

L is ~~OR^4~~ $-OR^4$ or $-O-Z^2$;

L* is $-OR^4$ or $-O-Z^2$.

31-34 (Cancelled).

35. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein:

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons, in each

case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O-, -S-, -NH-, (C_1- C_4)alkyl-N or acyl-N or, in the unsaturated case, one or more CH groups can in each case be replaced by a nitrogen atom, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula $R^2R^3C=$ and radicals of the formula L*,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring having 3 to 7 ring atoms, where in the case of a heterocycle the number of heteroatoms is from 1 to 3 heteroatoms and are selected from the group consisting of O and S and is otherwise unsubstituted or substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula L* and oxo.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein:

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O-, -S-, -NH-, (C_1- C_4)alkyl-N or acyl-N or, in the unsaturated case, one or more CH groups can in each case be replaced by a nitrogen atom, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen and radicals of the formula L*,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring having 5 to 6 ring atoms, where in the case of a heterocycle the number of heteroatoms is 1 heteroatom and is selected from the group consisting of O and S and is otherwise unsubstituted or substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro,

radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula L* and oxo.

37. (New) The compound of claim 26, wherein:

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O-, -S-, -NH-, (C_1- C_4)alkyl-N or acyl-N or, in the unsaturated case, one or more CH groups can in each case be replaced by a nitrogen atom, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula $R^2R^3C=$ and radicals of the formula L*,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring having 3 to 7 ring atoms, where in the case of a heterocycle the number of heteroatoms is from 1 to 3 heteroatoms and are selected from the group consisting of O and S and is otherwise unsubstituted or substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula L* and oxo.

38. (New) The compound of claim 37, wherein:

G is a divalent straight-chain saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon linking bridge moiety having 4 to 6 carbon atoms in the chain, in which one or more chain carbons, in each case independently of one another, can be replaced by -O-, -S-, -NH-, (C_1- C_4)alkyl-N or acyl-N or, in the unsaturated case, one or more CH groups can in each case be replaced by a nitrogen atom, where the bridge in question is unsubstituted or

(a) is substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen and radicals of the formula L*,

(b) carries two or four substituents defined by the radical of formula R^1, of which in each case two together with the linking bridge moiety form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring having 5 to 6 ring atoms, where in the case of a heterocycle the number of heteroatoms is 1 heteroatom and is selected from the group consisting of O and S and is otherwise unsubstituted or substituted by one or more identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, radicals of the formula R^1 which are different from hydrogen, radicals of the formula L* and oxo.